

Lakewood Elementary
Jill Anderson, Principal -janderson@norwalk.k12.ia.us
Chris Larson, Student Advocate- clarson@norwalk.k12.ia.us

We are so excited to start the school year at Lakewood. Our overall mission is “Every Child, Every Day.” We push ourselves to make students better each day they walk into the building! This year's theme is 1,2,3.... YOU ARE AWESOME. If you see staff running around the school with the t-shirt on, you know that it is a neighborhood day. We love what we do and hopefully, you can feel that as you walk into the building!

Lakewood Wins the Prestigious Character Counts School of Character

The Ray Center annually recognizes Iowans who show the Six Pillars of Character Counts: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Good Citizenship. Members of the Lakewood staff received the award at an award ceremony in July. Some excerpts of the recommendation letters said the following:

“No matter why you are in the Lakewood Elementary School building, from the time that you enter until the time that you leave, you will witness all of the pillars of character from everyone that you encounter: students, staff, faculty, and administrators. The culture of Lakewood provides a good learning environment and a place for our children to learn and demonstrate all of the pillars of character. I know that by attending Lakewood, my children will not only be a better student but better people. It makes me happy to know that my children are not just attending school for academics, but also to learn the qualities of character to become outstanding citizens in the community. I have witnessed students in the Norwalk Middle School and High School demonstrating good character, and I believe this starts with the foundation provided at Lakewood Elementary.”

“The thing that IS perfect about this school- they are always looking for ways to work together to do what is best for the kids. Creative solutions to challenges both big and small. As a community, we have seen them take tough situations and turn them into life lessons for our kids. They create an environment that will tolerate nothing less than tolerance and growth. The look at the most hopeless kid and they find a reason for them to be hopeful.”

Parking Lot Procedures

The PTO purchased flags to identify the drop off areas of Lakewood. We have expanded this area in order for the traffic pattern to move faster. It really worked great last year when students would exit 5-6 cars at a time. In order to maintain efficiency and flow, please be sure to follow these simple procedures:

- Do not leave your vehicle unattended unless you are parked in a designated parking spot.
- Vehicles must be next to the curb to drop off students. Many of you parked and had your child run across the street to come to school and that is very risky!
- Once your student is dropped off, please DO NOT cut through the parking lot, use the intended area.
- Please have your children ready to exit the vehicle. We should drop off 8-10 cars at a time.
- When picking up students, continue to pull up as far as you can. If there is a gap between you and the car in front of you, pull forward before your child gets into your vehicle.
- Please model the PBIS. Our children look up to us and learn how to act by how we act.

Our adults on duty after school are there to keep everyone safe. Please respect the work they are doing for all our children. Following these simple procedures will help everyone and keep our students safe

Leader in Me:

One of the foundational pieces of Lakewood is the Leader in Me program. Recently, the program was approved as a CASEL Select program for the elementary. *Leader in Me (LiM)* is a K-12 whole-school

transformation model and process developed in partnership with educators and offered through FranklinCovey Education. *Leader in Me* empowers students with the social and emotional learning (SEL) leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century.

In March 2018, the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) endorsed *Leader in Me* as a “CASEL SElect” program (their program-certification title). This designation follows an intensive analysis of *Leader in Me* by CASEL reviewers to determine that the program met their quality and evidence criteria.

As a CASEL SElect program, *Leader in Me* meets the following criteria:

- A well-designed program that provides schools with a systematic classroom-based model promoting the development of a student’s social and emotional competence across multiple years.
- It offers high-quality professional development and implementation support that ensure the school is equipped to effectively implement the program.
- One or more carefully conducted research evaluations of program impacts have been conducted and documents positive impacts on student behavior and/or academic performance.

FastBridge:

This will be the second year that the students will do a FastBridge assessment. The students will be taking that assessment and we will gather data in the areas of reading and math. That data will be shared with you at conferences as well as the specific programming that your child is receiving based on that data.

Music Dates

Oct. 17 5th Grade Music Concert, 6:00 / 7:15 ***change from previous years at NPAC

Oct. 31 5th Grade Band Demonstration Concert, 6:30 at Lakewood **checking on Beggar's Night

Dec. 20 5th Band/Chorus Assembly, AM at Lakewood

Feb. 11 5th Grade Band Winter Concert, 6:30 PM at NPAC

Mar. 7 5th Band Solo Festival, 8:00 - 3:00 PM at Middle School

Apr. 7 4th Grade Music Concert, 6:00 / 7:15 at NPAC

Apr. 27 3rd Grade Music Concert, 6:00 / 7:15 at NPAC

May 11 5th Band Spring Concert, 6:30 PM at NPAC